



THE COMPASS

This Sunday



November 27, 2016



THE
ASCENT
CHURCH

Get Connected

If this is your first visit, thank you for joining us. We hope your visit is meaningful! Please fill out a Connection Card and drop it in the offering box or at the Welcome Area so we will know you were here. For all guests and attenders, below are steps you can take to engage in our community.



Explore I

Learn more about our church, meet our Campus Pastors and others on our leadership team.

- Woodmoor Campus: every 1st Sunday, 10:15 am in Room 212.
- Northgate Campus: every 3rd Sunday, 11:30 am in lobby.

No pre-registration required.



Explore II

Explore II is a workshop for those ready to make The Ascent Church their church home and to be involved in God's mission and vision in our region. Explore II includes why and how to become a member, our trail map for each family member, ministry values, doctrine, and connecting with a Base Camp. Held quarterly at both campuses.



Base Camps

Base Camps are neighborhood-based groups that meet regularly around our community. To build deeper relationships with your neighbors, visit our website at theascentchurch.com/basecamps.



Serving Opportunities

How is God calling you to help create a welcoming and inviting Sunday experience for our guests and regular attenders? Serving opportunities are available in many areas from Hosting and Greeting, Service Prep Teams, or Technical and General Set-Up Teams. Training is available for each role.

If you have any questions about hosting or serving roles, please email info@theascentchurch.com.



Equipping

Our Equipping Classes are designed to help further your walk with Christ. There are many short-term classes offered at both campuses, as well as ongoing women's and men's Bible studies. For more information, visit our website at: www.theascentchurch.com/equipping.

Community Life



Children's Christmas Program

Ready for some Christmas spirit and music? Our annual Children's Christmas program will be on December 11 at all services and campuses.

Want to see God in action?

Join our Team and serve in Children's Ministry one Sunday a month.

No special skills needed, just a heart for Jesus and a desire to hear from the Holy Spirit. Are you being called to make an impact?

 melinda@theascentchurch.com

 **Christmas Eve Services:**

Northgate Campus
4:30pm

Northgate Campus
975 Stout Rd.
Colorado Springs, CO 80921

Woodmoor Campus
3:00pm, 6:00pm

Woodmoor Campus
1750 Deer Creek Rd.
Monument, CO 80132

www.TheAscentChurch.com
No services at either campus on Christmas Day

Response Time

Each Sunday service, after the message, we have a time of response to God. We invite you to engage in worship through some tangible ways throughout our worship space.

- Communion: Available to all who profess Jesus Christ
- Prayer: Pastors or Prayer Partners available in the room
- Song: Engage in singing and expression to God
- Offering: Offering boxes and kiosks are available for giving
- Other: At times we will offer artistic/tactile worship stations

We invite you to move around the room at your own pace and in freedom to worship and respond to God as you feel led. You may engage these areas of worship in any order and at your own pace.



GUATEMALA 2017

ASCENT STUDENT MINISTRIES

ASM Mission Trip

ASM will be returning to Guatemala in the summer of 2017. If you are interested in joining the mission team, please email: taylor@theascentchurch.com.



Giving at The Ascent

- Offering boxes during worship
- Online www.theascentchurch.com/give1
- Kiosk
- The Ascent Church App

Financial information can be obtained by contacting Tara at tara@theascentchurch.com.

Connection Opportunities *This Week*



Ascent Student Ministry

ASM Tuesday Dates: December 6, 13, 20 for MS and HS.

- Middle School: 5:30-6:45pm
- High School: 7:00-8:45pm

ASM Upcoming Events:

www.theascentchurch.com/students

ASM Deep

ASM DEEP Dates: December 4, 11, 18. No ASM on November 27 or December 25.

- Northgate: 10am, upstairs.
- Woodmoor: 11am, upstairs.

Children's Ministry

(Birth - 6th grade)

Tiny Town: Birth - PreK

Adventure Quest: K - 4th grade

Elevate: 5th - 6th grade

- Woodmoor Campus: 9am, 11am
- Northgate Campus: 10am

Family Worship Sundays:

November 27 and December 18 are family worship days for K-6th grade. Tiny Town will have child care available. The Children's Christmas program will be on December 11 at both campuses.

www.theascentchurch.com/kids

Missions

Thank you for supporting Operation Christmas Child!



Equipping Ministry

Connections Class: Sundays, 10:45am, Woodmoor Campus Room 213.

Parents of Teens Class: Sundays, 10:45am, Woodmoor Campus Room 210.

Women's and Men's Ministries

Men on the Ascent Bible Study:

1 & 2 Corinthians, 6:00am coffee; 6:15am start.

- Woodmoor Campus: Room 213
- Northgate: Cafe Communitas at Marcos Pizza

Women on the Ascent Studies:

Tuesdays, 9am, Woodmoor Campus, childcare available.

Wednesday evening study, 1 & 2 Corinthians, Woodmoor Campus, 6:30pm, childcare available.

Info: www.theascentchurch.com/equipping.

Christmas Tea:

Unfortunately, the Christmas Tea has been cancelled. For more information, please contact the church office at 719-481-3600.



This Sunday's Message

Overcoming Opposition

Overcoming opposition includes:

_____.

Joshua 6:1-5

_____.

Joshua 6:22-25

_____.

Joshua 5:13-15, Joshua 6:18



Shared Engagement and Preparation

The Compass is a daily devotional and study guide for individuals, families, and Base Camps. The Compass has Biblical reflections for each day, beginning on Monday and leading up to Sunday, which will help us all meditate on the week's passage. In this way, the whole of the church engages in God's Word and prepares for our time of worship and preaching.

Deep Engagement and Doable Application

In order to allow for deep impact by God through His Word, The Compass centers on one passage in three ways—as individuals, with others, in our corporate gatherings—and focuses on applying what God is showing us. Life transformation happens when God's people depend upon and live out what He has revealed to us in His Word.

Consistency Over Time

With a tool such as The Compass, we can mistakenly measure personal spiritual success or failure based on whether we've completed a given day's reflection. Instead, use The Compass as a resource for individual and community growth. If you miss a few days, move on, pick it up from the next day, and seek maturity—God will honor this.

Our prayer is that God will bless you as you seek to connect intimately with Him, intentionally with His people, and influentially in His world.

The Compass Passages for November 28–December 3, 2016:

- Joshua 7-8

Monday, November 28, 2016

Read: Joshua 1–3, and review your Compass for the first weeks of this series.

Reflect:

Joshua 1: What did God promise to the people of Israel? Did God promise victory or defeat? How does Joshua 1:9 summarize what the Israelites could expect in their future?

Joshua 2: What was the report of the spies to Joshua (Joshua 2:24)? What was one way God started to fulfill the promises stated in chapter 1? Was the spies' report encouraging or discouraging to Joshua and Israel?

Joshua 3: What were the people to do prior to crossing the Jordan? What does it mean to consecrate oneself? What was the miracle that allowed Joshua and the Israelites to cross the Jordan? Would this encourage or discourage God's people? Would it encourage you? Why?

Read 1 Corinthians 7:23. Reflect on the above. Ask God to deepen your confidence in His love, and ask Him to speak to you about what it means to be chosen in Christ Jesus.

What transforming thoughts and/or actions were revealed to you throughout this week, and how might you put them into practice?

Tuesday, November 29, 2016

Read: Joshua 4–6, and review your Compass for the first weeks of this series.

Reflect:

Joshua 4: The people were asked to make a memorial. What was this memorial to be? How was it to function? How did this affect Joshua's reputation in the eyes of God's people?

Joshua 5: Why would the men need to be circumcised? What covenant did this renew? What does Joshua 5:9 signify to the sons and daughters of those who were once in Egyptian captivity? Some scholars think that the altar set up by Joshua (Joshua 8:30) was essentially at or near Gilgal. What might be the significance that the first Passover and subsequent sacrifices were made here—right after God's deliverance of His people into the Promised Land? What was holy about the spot where Joshua and the people of God stood?

Joshua 6: What confidence might the people of God have had when God sent them to defeat Jericho? What do you think of the unconventional way God provided defeat? Who would get credit for Jericho's defeat: Joshua, the soldiers of Israel, or God? Why? What did God command them to do with the spoils (Joshua 6:18–19)? Did the spies keep their word to Rahab (Joshua 2:12–13)? What would you expect to happen next?

Read Romans 8:31–39. What should be a believer's orientation toward challenges, opportunities, and coming events? What should be your attitude toward fulfilling the evangelism of the world? Of your neighbors, family, and friends? What is your expectation of what God has called you to do? Why? Spend time in conversation with God about this reality.

What transforming thoughts and/or actions were revealed to you throughout this week, and how might you put them into practice?

Wednesday, November 30, 2016

Read: Joshua 6:18–19 and Joshua 7:1.

Reflect:

1. In your opinion, what motivated Achan to defy God's command and take some of the spoil?

2. How can believers make obvious and egregious choices to sin even when God is clear and is providing?

3. Have you ever failed God in such a way? What was in your heart and mind when you made that choice, acting defiantly?

4. What can believers do to find God's mercy in such cases? Are there areas in which you need to seek His mercy?

Sometime this week, share your answer to question 2. Discuss how Christians are to avoid such choices.

What transforming thoughts and/or actions were revealed to you throughout this week, and how might you put them into practice?

Thursday, December 1, 2016

Read: Joshua 7:2–9.

Reflect:

1. Given the report of the first spies (Joshua 2:24), what might Joshua have expected to hear from these new spies? Did Joshua know of Achan's sin when he sent the spies? What do these disparate realities suggest to you as a believer?

2. Because of the spies' report, of what did Joshua begin to accuse God? How does this caution you against condemning God?

3. Read Joshua 7:10–26, Proverbs 9:10, and Luke 12:5.

- Do believers sometimes imagine they're getting away with sin? Is this ever true? Why or why not? Is there a sin you sometimes imagine you're getting away with? What does this do to your soul?
- Why was the place of this deception called "The Valley of Achor"?
- How can this passage serve as a corrective?
- What might full repentance look like for you? Journal your thoughts.

What transforming thoughts and/or actions were revealed to you throughout this week, and how might you put them into practice?

Friday, December 2, 2016

Read: Joshua 8:1-17.

Reflect:

1. What did God promise would happen? What reminder did God give? When God declares things twice, what does that signify to you about your unfaithfulness? About His faithfulness? About how serious He is about His promises and warnings?

2. What is similar between the first attack on Ai (7:1–5) and this attack? What is different?

3. Where was Joshua in the first attack? In this attack? What might that say about your leadership risks and obediences?

4. Return to a promise God made to you that hasn't completely been fulfilled. Seek God's counsel on how He will fulfill it. Rest with the Lord, asking, "How am I to overcome failure, Father?" Journal this along with your repentance (see Thursday's notes).

What transforming thoughts and/or actions were revealed to you throughout this week, and how might you put them into practice?

Saturday, December 3, 2016

Read: Joshua 8:18–29 and 2 Chronicles 7:14.

Reflect:

1. What position did Joshua hold during the battle? What is the significance?

2. Why did God command Israel to completely destroy Ai and kill its inhabitants? What happens when you don't completely wipe out temptation, unruliness, or sin from your life?

3. Does this seem extreme by today's standards of war? What is similar to or different from war your country might be involved in? What might you do differently than the nation of Israel in Ai?

4. Read Joshua 8:30-35 and Joshua 1:6-8.

- Why might God command an altar of uncut stone? In this altar, whose work is honored?
- Why was a copy of the law of Moses made by Joshua? Might this be another covenant renewal ceremony? Do you need to renew your covenant with the Lord? How can you do that today?
- What does reading all the words of the law do for God's people? Who needs to hear God's instructions?

What transforming thoughts and/or actions were revealed to you throughout this week, and how might you put them into practice?

Building Our Base Camp Family

This is week one of our suggested four-week pattern for Base Camps: intergenerational, adult study, mixed, invitation/service.

Allow kids to recognize their heroes, whether these heroes are real people or superheroes from movies. Use a board or large paper to write down answers. Invite younger kids to draw pictures of their heroes during discussion (either up front on a board or on paper).

Group Discussion:

1. *Who are some of your heroes?*
2. *What makes a good hero?*
3. *Who are some heroes from the Bible?*

The hero in our Bible story today is Joshua. What makes him a hero? He served God with his whole heart and obeyed God's instructions. God said to Joshua, "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go" (Joshua 1:9). Joshua encouraged the people as God had encouraged him: "Just be strong and brave." Joshua was a good leader.

After Joshua led the Israelites across the Jordan River, they came to the city of Jericho. Jericho had high walls around it and the gates were shut tight because the people were afraid of the Israelites. But the Lord said to Joshua, "See, I have given Jericho into your hand, with its king and mighty men of valor. You shall march around the city, all the men of war going around the city once. Thus shall you do for six days. Seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark. On the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets. And when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, when you hear the sound of the trumpet, then all the people shall shout with a great shout, and the wall of the city will fall down flat" (Joshua 6:2-5). Joshua did as the Lord told him, and the Israelites captured Jericho.

Contact Us

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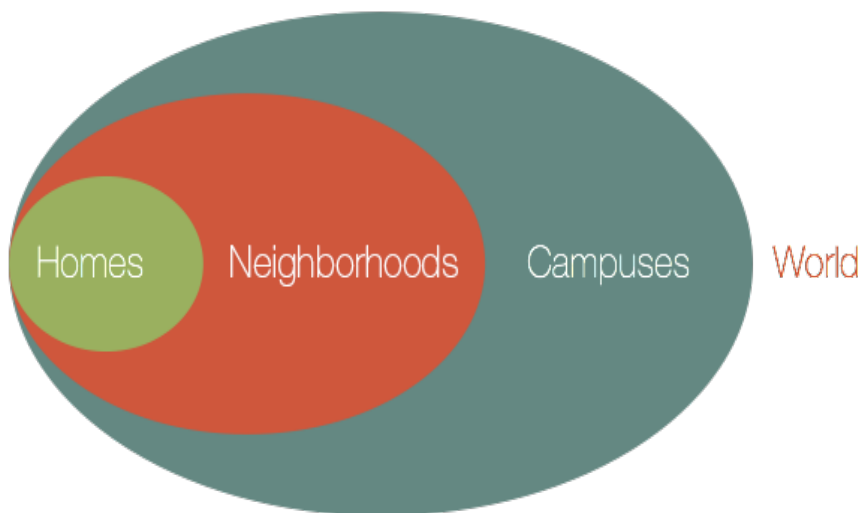
Visit us online at www.theascentchurch.com

Mission and Vision

The mission of THE ASCENT CHURCH is to help people connect intimately with God, intentionally with God's family, and influentially with God's world. Our vision is to develop genuine biblical communities on every street in our region.

Our community lives out its vision and mission within three environments:

- Home — The best place for formation and nurture.
- Neighborhood — The best place for application and outreach.
- Campus — The best place for equipping, inspiration and celebration.



1750 Deer Creek Road - Monument, CO 80132

719-481-3600 - TheAscentChurch.com

Special thanks to all who contributed to The Compass

If you have questions or comments, email:

Info@TheAscentChurch.com



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